

Strange Things (10/9/22)

Main Verses: Genesis 3:1-6

Key Verse: Genesis 3:1

'Takeaway': The strangest parts of the story about the snake and the garden should remind us that even stranger, is our idea that true life can be found apart from God.

Getting Started: Have you ever disobeyed your parents?



READ Genesis 3:1-6

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Can snakes speak? What does it represent?
- Why did God tell Adam and Eve to **not** eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (see Genesis 1:17)?
- Why **did** they eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? Was it the snake's fault that Eve ate the fruit? Was it Eve's fault that Adam ate this fruit?
- Where do we find life?

Elementary:

- What does the snake represent?
- Why did God tell them **not** to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? (Genesis 1:17) How does Eve "add" to what God said? Is that important here?
- Why does God give us perimeters?
- How does the snake convince (trick) Adam and Eve?
- Why did Adam and Eve eat the fruit? Was it the snake's fault that Eve ate the fruit? Was it Eve's fault that Adam ate it?
- Where is life found?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- The snake is described as "crafty", offering a wisdom not based on the fear and word of God.
- God gives perimeters ("rules") to help us live as He wants us to live. God always wants the very best for us.
- God wants us to know about sin according to **his** word and wisdom, not according to our 'wisdom'.
- Life is found in God alone. But when we reject his word we reject true life. Thank God for Jesus, who kept God's word, and died so we can walk with God once more.

Elementary:

- The snake is offering wisdom not based on the fear and word of God. We know this because when he speaks of the LORD he avoids using the personal name of God (Yahweh).
- Either Eve on her own, or Adam in talking to Eve, added onto God's instruction regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God did not say to not **touch** the fruit, he said do not **eat** it.
- The snake's words make them question God's command, especially after Eve touches the fruit and did not die. Once each of them chose to eat the fruit, they broke God's command (sinned).
- God wants us to know about sin according to his word and wisdom, not according to our 'wisdom'. God always wants the best for us; His commands are to help us live in joy and peace with him.
- Life is found in God alone. But when we reject his word we reject true life. Thank God for Jesus, who kept God's word, and died so we can walk with God once more

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, thanking Him for His loving rules that help us to live safe and happy in him. Ask God to help you learn to hear his voice as you grow, so that you can follow him and grow in him. Thank God for Jesus who kept God's word and died for our disobedience.

(Elementary) Talk to God, thanking him for his Word that teaches us about him. Thank God for his Word that teaches us how to live safe and happy lives in him. Thank God for Jesus who kept God's Word and died for our disobedience. Ask him to help you to hear his voice above all others so that you can hear him and obey him.